

K-12 Interpreters' Role in IEP Meetings and In-Services

Educational interpreters are often faced with the challenge of interpreting for, attending and/or participating in an IEP meeting. Also, interpreters are faced with in-servicing other professionals and students on a daily basis. Often there are questions that come up related to the interpreter's role. When is it appropriate to step out of the interpreter role and be team member with input? How do we tactfully make sure the interpreter is invited as a team member? How do we in-service school staff about our role at IEPs and In-services? What can we talk about as a team member? Can we discuss non-language issues? This workshop will address the educational interpreter's role in an IEP meeting, both as a working interpreter and as a participant. The second half of the workshop will address the importance of In-servicing and training people at your school about the role of an interpreter and will also give tangible suggestions for implementation.

Presenters: Hilary Hardin

Hilary Hardin, M.A., CI/CT, NIC Master is currently earning her Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology. She earned her Master's Degree from the University of Minnesota in Deaf Education and Family Education through the Master of Liberal Studies program. Hilary completed her training as an interpreter at St. Paul College, where she is currently an adjunct instructor in their Interpreter Training Program. She has been a sign language interpreter since 2001 and enjoys working in a variety of settings including business, medical, VRS, higher education and K-12 education. Hilary is currently a District Manager for Sorenson Communications.